

PARTIAL TRANSCRIPTION - ORIGINAL FOLLOWS

1. (S) In view of the possibility of a declaration by the East Germans that the Berlin sector border is an international boundary completely closed, and in order to draw the Soviets into control of this sector border, I propose commencing on 6 or 7 October to probe our right to use other sector crossings by use of Berlin Command military tour vehicles upon their return from East and West Berlin. I would have vehicles attempt to return via American sector crossing points, other than Friedrichstrasse, at which there is little or no activity, thus avoiding attracting press and public attention with possible attendant loss of face. Personnel would be instructed to request passage of Vopos. If passage is granted we would have further strengthened our position that passage is a right and thereby assist in negotiations at the national level. If passage is denied by Vopo, our personnel will state our right to passage and ask for a Soviet officer. If Vopo refuses to call Soviet, personnel will reiterate demand for crossing. If no further action is taken by Vopo, vehicle will withdraw after it is again stated that we have a right as Americans to cross, that such denial is illegal, and that we protest against such highhanded action. Withdrawal will be effected and return will be via Friedrichstrasse crossing point.

2. (C) It General Clay's belief, and I agree, that the above course of action:

a. Cannot result in loss of prestige.

~~SECRET~~

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USNMR SHAPE UNITED STATES MESSAGE

C-116/052054Z

OFFICIAL INCOMING MESSAGE USNMR TOR/052135Z

SECRET

DECLASSIFIED

PRIORITY

FROM: USCOB BERLIN GER

Authority DAD Directly 5210.10

TO: CINCUSAREUR

By DJA NLE Date 6/21/88

INFO: USCINCEUR

NR: COB 434

05 Oct 61

FOR NORSTAD, PALMER AND CLARKE FROM WATSON

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LN 11148

Pg 1 of 2 Pgs

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NR: COB 434 (Contd) - SECRET

- b. Will not add any risk to the present situation.
- c. But will serve to keep the other side guessing.
- d. Will increase contacts between Soviets and US,

and

e. Will serve to overcome partially the undesirable reaction locally and in Moscow to our failure to aggressively exercise our right to free passage, at the time the number of crossing points for Allies was reduced to one (23d August).

3. (C) I would vary the time, place and frequency of the above probes so as to avoid establishing a pattern and to keep the other side guessing. It might be noted parenthetically that the action which I propose is one of the very few available here which would keep the other side off balance.

4. (U) General Clay concurs.

5. SCP 4.

ACTION: OSACEUR

(US ELM)

SUSP: 7 Oct 61

INFO: COFS, AIR DEP, SPASAC-INTAF

DOWNGRADED AT 3 YEAR INTERVALS; DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YEARS;
DOD DIR 5200.10

LN 11148

(5 Oct 61)

DTG/051900Z

FM

Pg 2 of 2 Pgs

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